REMARKS

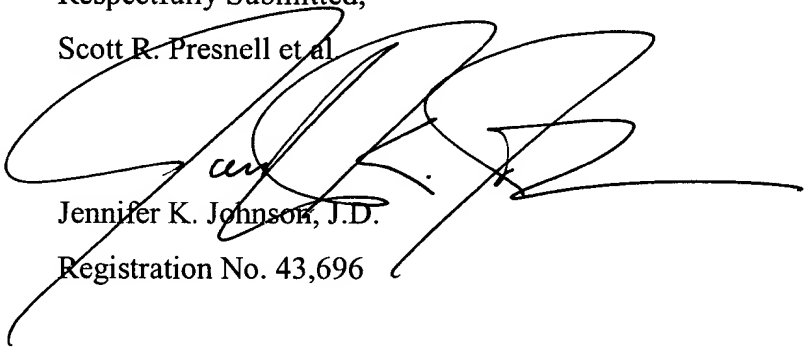
Claims 1-3, 19-20, 47-53, and 67-70 are pending in the instant application. Claims 4-7, and 43-46 were canceled via Preliminary Amendment submitted April 15, 2002. Claims 8-18, 21-42, and 54-66, and 71 have been withdrawn pursuant to Response to Restriction Requirement submitted December 18, 2002. In response to the Office action mailed March 24, 2003, Applicant filed an Amendment and Response on September 24, 2003 wherein: (a) Claim 1 was amended to clarify the claim; Claims 2 and 3 were canceled and the subject matter re-written as newly added claims 72-74 (mis-numbered as 71-73 therein); Claims 19 and 20, and 67 were canceled and re-written as claims 75-80 (mis-numbered as 74-79 therein) and 81 (mis-numbered as 80 therein) so as not to depend from a canceled claim and to provide proper dependency on newly added claims 72-74 (mis-numbered as 71-73 therein); (b) in order to simplify the issues, expedite prosecution, and to pursue certain embodiments of the invention, claims 47-53 and 68-70 were amended to provide for multimeric receptor complexes, without prejudice to the prosecution the cancelled subject matter in a subsequent application; and (c) dependent claims 82-86 (mis-numbered as 81-85 in the September 24, 2003 response) were added to provide claims of various scope encompassed by the present invention; said claims are supported throughout the specification and claims (e.g., including original claims 19, 20, 47, 51, and 70). No new matter was added by these amendments. Applicant believes the case is in condition for allowance. An Appendix with clean versions of the instant pending claim set is provided for the Examiner's convenience, and shall not be construed as submission of a re-presented claim set under 37 CFR §1.121.

The Amendment and Response filed September 24, 2003, in response to the Office action mailed March 24, 2003, is of record and was not resubmitted with this response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed October 17, 2003, as requested by the Office. The instant "Amendments to the Claims" section of the Amendment and Response filed September 24, 2003 contains (a) a complete listing of all the claims; (b) the text of all the claims including withdrawn claims; (c) status identifiers on each claim; and (d) claims presented in ascending numerical order. Consequently, the defects in the "Amendments to the Claims

section" have been corrected, and the Amendment should be properly entered, and the Amendment and Response filed September 24, 2003 properly considered.

Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If the Patent Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6676.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott R. Presnell et al.



Jennifer K. Johnson, J.D.
Registration No. 43,696

Enclosures:

Appendix (4 pages)
Postcard

APPENDIX

Pending Claim Set with Amended Claims

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An isolated polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acid residues of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 21 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (c) amino acid residues 22 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (d) amino acid residues 22 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (e) amino acid residues 22 to 108 of SEQ ID NO:2, (f) amino acid residues 112 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (g) amino acid residues 21 to 110 of SEQ ID NO:2.

47. An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 22-231, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a multimeric receptor complex.

48. An isolated polypeptide according to claim 47, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a multimeric receptor complex further comprising a soluble Class I or Class II cytokine receptor.

49. An isolated polypeptide according to claim 47, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a multimeric receptor complex comprising a soluble CRF2-4 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:35), a soluble IL-10 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:36), or soluble zcytor11 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:34).

50. An isolated polypeptide according to claim 47, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label,

biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

51. An isolated multimeric soluble receptor complex comprising soluble receptor subunits, wherein at least one of the soluble receptor subunits comprises a soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 22-231.

52. An isolated multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 51, further comprising a soluble Class I or Class II cytokine receptor polypeptide.

53. An isolated multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 51, further comprising a soluble CRF2-4 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:35), a soluble IL-10 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:36), or soluble zcytor11 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:34).

68. An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 22-231.

69. The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 68, wherein the receptor complex further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

70. The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 68, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

72. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 22 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (c) amino acid residues 1 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

73. The isolated polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 22 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (c) amino acid residues 1 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

74. An isolated polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 22 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (c) amino acid residues 22 to 108 of SEQ ID NO:2, (d) amino acid residues 112 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (e) amino acid residues 21 to 110 of SEQ ID NO:2.

75. A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the fusion protein binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

76. The fusion protein of claim 75, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

77. A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 73.

78. The fusion protein of claim 77, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

79. A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 74.

80. The fusion protein of claim 79, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

81. The isolated polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain

82. The isolated polypeptide of claim 73, wherein the polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain

83. The isolated polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the polypeptide binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

84. The isolated polypeptide of claim 81, wherein the polypeptide binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

85. The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide of claim 47, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

86. The isolated soluble multimeric soluble receptor complex of claim 51, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.